



# Brownfields 2004 Grant Fact Sheet

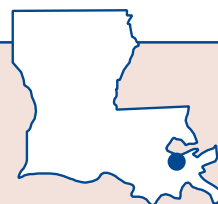
## *Regional Planning Commission, Southeast Louisiana*

### EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, the President signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

### Community Description

The Regional Planning Commission in Southeast Louisiana was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant. St. Bernard, St. Tammany, and Plaquemine Parishes have a total population of 285,254, of whom from 7.6 percent to 23.4 percent are African-American. The poverty rate in these parishes ranges from 9.7 percent to 18 percent, and the per capita income is lower than the national average. The three parishes are vulnerable to pollution from underground storage tanks because they are located at or below sea level, and leaks are quickly absorbed into the underlying water table. Brownfields assessment is



### Assessment Grant

**New  
2004**

**\$200,000 for petroleum**

EPA has selected the Regional Planning Commission to receive a brownfields assessment grant. Petroleum grant funds will be used to identify and assess petroleum-contaminated sites and underground storage tanks in St. Bernard, St. Tammany, and Plaquemine Parishes. Grant funds will also be used to perform approximately four Phase I assessments in each of the three parishes, and construct redevelopment plans.

### Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: [www.epa.gov/brownfields](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields)

EPA Region 6 Brownfields Team  
214-665-2180  
<http://www.epa.gov/region6/brownfields>

Grant Recipient: Regional Planning Commission, LA  
504-568-6630

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, the activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

expected to create jobs, remove risks to the environment, improve the residents' health, and allow the communities to make decisions about the redevelopment of sites.